H.C. Burleigh Papers

Franklin

Abstract Index of Land Records of Pittsburg township

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lot 7 Con 1 | | | | |
| | 1797 | Crown | - Joseph Franklin, Sr | |
| L23 will | 1833 | Joseph Franklin - | | |
| | | nothing more after this date | | |
| Lot 9 Con 3 | 1797 | Crown | - Sgt Joseph Franklin, Sr | |
| | 1801 | sold to Philip Pember | | |
| Lot 10 Con 3 | | | | |
| | 1797 | Crown | - Mary Franklin | 200 acres |
| B283 D 8 Apr | 1811 | Abel Gates & w | - James " | " |
| K101 Will 25 Feb | 1831 | Joseph Franklin-- | John " | for lot |
| B64 D | 1855 | Wm Franklin &w | - John McNeice | part |
| B126 | 1856 | John " | - | |
| | | by administration- | Grand Trunk RR | 2 ac |
| B659 D | 1861 | Wm Franklin | - Archibald Macdonnell | W½ |
| B788 D | 1862 | Wm Henry " | - Donald Hay | E½ |
| | | (if this is your William you note he is called William Henry, although it could have been his son) | | |
| Lot 11 Con 3 | | | | |
| | 1797 | Crown | - Joseph Franklin, Jr | |
| K101 Will 25 Feb | 1831 | Joseph Farnklin | | for lot |
| D | Apr 1854 | John J McNeice | - Archibald Macdonnell | 200 ac |
| D | Nov 1854 | Moses Baldwin | - William Franklin | |
| D | 1855 | Wm Franklin &w | - John McNeice | |
| Lot 9 Con 4 | | | | |
| | 1798 | Crown | - John Franklin | W½ 100 ac |
| | 1803 | " | - Jane Anderson | E½ 100 ac |
| G777 D 18 Mar | 1822 | Joseph and Wm Franklin | - Walter McCuniffe | W½ |

Lot 8 Con 3 to C and J Franklin according to Atlas of Frontenac Co 1878
Charles D Franklin was a farmer born in Canada 1836
W H Franklin was a farmer born in Canada 1826
The above three line were found in the Atlas of Frontenac County 1878

The John Franklin would have been the son of Joseph Sr

Mrs. E.S. Laws
[illegible] Tye's Road
[illegible]

C O P Y

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE,
CHANCERY LANE, W.C. 2.

Telephone HOLborn 0741,0742

22 October, 1958

Dear Sir,

Sergeant Joseph Franklin

In reply to your letter of September 22 I have to inform you that search has been made without success for references to Joseph Franklin in the Regular Army Soldiers' Documents (W.O. 97/461) The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, Admission Books (W.O.116/5), and Regimental Registers (W.O. 120/4,8,12) have also been examined without success

A memorial from Joseph Franklin to the Commissioners for Enquiring into the Losses and Services of American Loyalists is preserved among the American Loyalists' Claims, Series II (A.O. 13/80). Briefly, the memorial states that Franklin was formerly a Sergeant in the 27th Regiment of Foot and that he was discharged in the year 1763 having served 21 years. He settled at Crown Point with his wife and four children until 1776 when he rejoined the British Forces and served in Canada under Ct.[Captain Lieutenant later General William?] Twiss commanding the Engineers. A Photostat copy of this memorial can be supplied for 4s. 3d. negative or 7s. 9d. negative and positive. The prices include packing and postage.

The Musters of the 27th Foot in the custody of this Department commence in 1759 and it is possible that a search in these Musters might reveal further details of Sergeant Franklin's service. Such a search would be too extensive to be undertaken officially by this Department but, if you care to make the search yourself, every facility would be available to you in the Search Rooms here which are open to holders of Students' Tickets. An Application Form and a copy of the Rules and Regulations are enclosed. If you are unable to make a search yourself it would be open to you to employ a professional Record Agent. The names and addresses of two such Agents will be sent on request.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) ? ? ? .

For Secretary.

IGS/VFS

E. J. Adsett, Esq.,
Borough Librarian,
MITCHAM.

FRANKLIN

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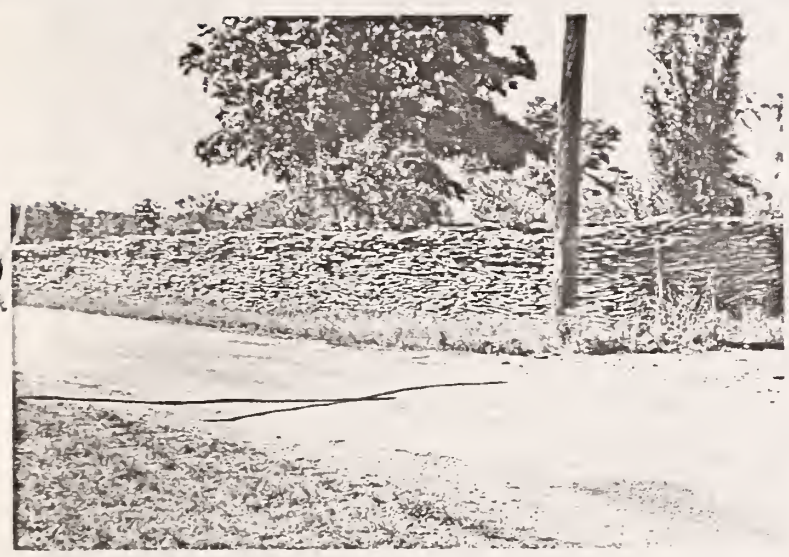
SEP · 57



Wilmington, Delaware
March 28,1977.

Dear Doctor Burleigh;

Thank you for your nice long letter of the 13th. I hope you won't find me presumptive in writing to you again.

Perhaps I did not mention it, but I am a member of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the U.E.L. . You mention in your letter that now you were going to establish a Franklin file. If you wish, I have material you would be quite welcome to use. You mention also that my Great, Great grandfather evidently did not present himself before the judge in Kingston in order to present evidence that would entitle his children to obtain land grants. Be that as it may, they did obtain grants and I am enclosing some material on that. I am presently writing up a family story as I am the last in the family able to do it. I am using information I have had over the years, what I remember my Grandfather told me and clippings, pictures etc.. I am no writer but hope to leave some sort of story for those who follow me and let them know that their people had a hand in setting up a nation. I am very proud of that.

In the material I sent you regarding Joseph Franklin's claim to the crown on the loss of his property in New York province, he said that for the last couple of years of his service in the British army he was a master mason on ~~the~~ Fort William Henry. This fort must have been around the Crown Point area. Can you tell me where it was, or is?????? . He said he was working on it in 1759.

During 1957 I was working in Venezuela and came up to Kingston on vacation. I think they were just starting to work on the new prison at Joyceville and they had not yet torn down some of the old houses nor worked-over the old graveyard. I am enclosing a picture of a Franklin house and the stone fence that was standing at that time. We once had a large picture of this house but in my travels over the years it has been lost. My grandfather told me these fences were made by escaped slaves who stayed at the farms in the area until they could be placed around in order to take care of themselves. The Franklins among others were on the end of the underground system. Having served some time in the armed forces I cannot imagine the troops doing this work nor having the skill to build this type of fence. A stone fence without morter that had stood for 150 years. Can I change your opinion ?????

I hope you might find time one of these days to write me again and tell me where Fort William Henry was located. My very best to you and Mrs. Burleigh.

Sincerely

Russell Franklin

Joseph Franklin Sergeant in His Majesty's 27th Reg't. of Foot.

1726 born in England (stated in losses claim)

1757 came to America with the army

1763 was discharged at Crown Point, Province of New York, had a farm there.

1776 joined Carleton and moved to Canada with the British forces.

1783 on Caleton Island with wife Jane born about 1729 (probably in England).
also Mary born 1763 (daughter)
son John born about 1769

Sept.27,1784 filed claim at Cataraqui against the Crown for loss of property at Crown Point.

Feb.27,1788 filed second claim at Montreal

See letter to me dated Oct.22,1958 from Public Records Office Chancery Lane, London, England. Title-"Sergeant Joseph Franklin"

See Report of the Bureau of Archives of Ontario Vol.1904 U.E.L. Claims, page 450

Joseph Franklin, Sr. came to America in 1757 as a sergeant in His Majesty's 27th Regiment of Foot. After serving 21 years he was discharged in 1763 and given a grant of 200 acres of land on the west side of Lake Champlain at Crown Point, Province of New York. By deduction, he entered the army in 1742. In the book "Kingston Before The War of 1812" by Preston, under "Return of Loyalists on Carleton Island Nov.26,1783", is listed Joseph Franklin age 57, his wife Jane age 54, daughter Mary age 20 and son John age 14. Again, by deduction, Joseph was born about 1726 and his wife Jane about 1729. Probably both in England. He states in his memorial of Sept.27,1784 that his last three years of service was spent at Crown Point where he was discharged in 1763. He says he lived there until 1776 when he left his farm to join the King's forces, rather than join the "unnatural rebellion."

He states that he had a wife and four children when he lived at Crown Point.They came to Canada with General Carleton and settled on Carleton Island. They apparently left Carleton Island in 1783 and came over to Pittsburgh Township.My grandfather told me that his grandfather ( Joseph,Sr.) found he was still in the U.S.A. so they burned the farm and retired to Canada.

William Henry Franklin my Great Grandfather states in the census of 1851 that he was born in the U.S.A. he was the son of Joseph Franklin,Sr.. The 1851 census lists him as being 64 years of age,making his birth date 1787. As Joseph Franklin,Sr's. wife jane was listed as 54 in their movement from Carleton Island in 1783 then obviously she was not William's mother and Joseph Sr. must have married a second time. As further indication that Joseph married again I quote from Mrs.McNiece's article on "Old Times in Pittsburgh",she says, " My grandfather with his young wife settled anew in the Township of Pittsburgh eight miles east of Kingston. In the census of 1851-61-71 it shows William as xxx having been born in the U.S.A..I cannot reconcile this as he was probably born about 1784 and his family moved from Carleton Island in 1783.It would appear that in 1851 he was not sure when he was born and the following census carried on from there. He was not mentioned in Preston's Report on the Return of Loyalists From Carleton Island.It appears to me that William Henry was the son of Joseph Franklin Sr. and his young wife which would make him Joseph Jr's. half brother. I find difficulty in reconciling dates of births as apparently there was little in the way of written records,(family).In the census of 1851 William is listed as being 64,but in 1861 he is only 70,a difference of six years and in 1871 he is 85 years old,a difference of 15 years.The records at Cataraqui cementary show him as being 89 years of age when he died in 1873.

From :Public Records Office
Chancery Lane
London. England
October 22,1958.

Cataragui,Sept.27,1784

Memorial of Joseph Franklin formerly Serj't. belonging to His Majestys

27th Reg't. of Foot. Discharged in the year 1763 and humble recommends to His Majestys Royal County of Chelsea Hospital,having served twenty-one years,of which the four last,acting in the capacity of Master Mason,by an order of General Amherst( note it could be Elmhurst).The year 1759 at Fort William Henry under the direction of Col. Montresore,the three last years at Crown Point under Capt.Garth and Lt.Adolphus Benzel, at which last place I was discharged. Rec'd. my two hundred acers of land and settled with a wife and four small children,till the year 1776 when I left my place and joynd His Majestys arms of which times since I have been employed under the direction of Capt. Twiss commanding engineer for the province of Canada.

The following is a small estimate of my loss by the Unnatural rebellion.

| | |
|---|---|
| Two hundred acers of land | £ 60 |
| Two houses with outhouses | 20 |
| One horse and one mare | 10 |
| One bulloch and heifer | 6 |
| Total | £ 96 sterling |

Household furniture and other items excepted.

Return of Loyalists on Carleton Island 26 Nov 1783
Joseph Thankler age 57
John " 14
Mrs. Jane " 54
Henry " 20

replied 15 Aug/77
offering services

Wilmington, Delaware
August 10,1977.

H.C.Burleigh,MD,CM.
Kingston,Ont.,
Canada

Dear Doctor;

I want to thank you for your nice letter of July 28th,I certainly do remember you and the short visit we had.I wish I could do it again sometime in the near future and make it just a little longer. I have many more questions to ask now.I think I have already told you I am a member of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the UEL. I would like nothing better than to spend a couple of months in Kingston unravelling some of the unclear parts of the family history.

Now, in connection with your letter....

My G.G.grandfather's first wife was Jane,probably born in England about 1729,were probably married in England.They had a son Joseph Jr. born at Crown Point,NY in 1760. Jr.married Margaret McLaughlin,daughter of John and Elizabeth McLaughlin of Kingston.Margaret was born 1763,died Oct.14,1849,Joseph Jr. died Sept.17,1830. They lived in a two story brick house where the gas pipeline station now stands at Joyceville.I was in the house in 1958,it has since been torn down.

As a matter of interest I am enclosing a copy of Joseph Jr. Last Will. The front and back are Xeroxed copies but the inside pages had to be hand copied..it is not quite complete. My whole problem stems from the fact that I can't determine who or where Joseph Sr. married the 2nd time ( I am positive he did) and I don't know how many children he had or who they were,except my Great grandfather was one of them. The duplication of first names does not help any.They were all,William,John,Henry

# I AM FINE - THANK YOU

There is nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as I can be,
I have arthritis in both my knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.

My pulse is weak and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.
Arch supports I have for my feet,
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street.

Sleep is denied me, night after night,
But every morning I find I'm all right,
My mem'ry is failing, my head's in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is this, as this tale I unfold,
That for me and you who are growing old,
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent,
Well, my "get up and go" has got up and went,
But I really don't mind when I think with a
grin,
Of all the grand places my "get up" has been.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed,
With my ears in the drawer,
my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on the table until I wake up,
As sleep comes o'er me, I say to myself,
Is there anything else I should lay on the
shelf?

When I was young my slippers were red,
I could kick my heels right over my head,
When I grew older, my slippers were blue,
But still I could dance the whole night
through.

Now then I am old, my slippers are black,
I walk to the store and puff myself back.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits,
Pick up the papers and read the "obits",
If my name is still missing,
I know I'm not dead,
So I get a good breakfast and go back to bed.

A Senior Citizen

In the Name of God — Amen

I Joseph Franklin of the Township of Pittsburgh in the Midland District in the Province of Upper Canada, do make publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner following — that is to say

First — I do grant and devise unto my beloved Wife Margaret Franklin all

**In the Surrogate Court of the Midland District.**

Margaret Franklin of the Township of Pittsburgh, widow, Makes oath and says that she verily believes the annexed Will to be the last **Will** and **Testament** of Joseph Franklin late of the Township of Pittsburgh deceased. That she will pay all the debts and legacies of the deceased as far as the **Goods** shall extend, and the law shall bind her that she will well and truly administer according to law. That she will exhibit, or cause to be exhibited into the Register's office of the Surrogate Court for the Midland District, on or before six Calendar months from the date hereof, a just and perfect inventory of all and singular the **Goods, Chattels,** and Credits, which were of the said deceased. And that she will render a true account of her administration when she shall be lawfully called upon so to do.

Swern before me at Kingston — this Twenty first day of March 1855

Thomas Macklem — Margaret Franklin

Surrogate

Or Joseph or combinations of two of the names. Unfortunatly I let my interest lag in the years when I could very easily unravelled the whole ball of yarn...now I can just set around and wonder.

Thank you again doctor for your continued interest and I want you to know I appreciate it no end. If you come across any further bits and pieces of the puzzle I hope you will pass them on to me.

Best repards to yourself and Mrs.Burleigh

Sincerely

Russell Franklin

Russell Franklin
Apt.5A7, Brandywine Hundred Apartments
402 Foulk Road
Wilmington, Del.
19803

(McLaughlin)

Children of Joseph & Margaret Franklin St Georges Co Langstor

daughters

8 Mar 1795 Juliette
12 March 1797 Elizabeth
15 1801 Jane
6 March 1803 Charlotte
26 mar 1809 Mary interred
17 Mar 1805 Margaret Sponsor
30 Dec 1811 do do for son of Wm & Catherine McLaughlin

Wills of the Midland District
RG 22 6-2-C

at the Public Archives of Ontario
in Toronto, 77 Grenville St

Will of Joseph Franklin

In the Name Of God, Amen

I, Joseph Franklin of the twonship of Pittsburg in the Midland District Province of Upper Canada, do make, publish and declare this my last will and Testament in the manner followinf (that is to say)-
1st. I do grant and devise to my beloved wife Margaret Franklin all and singular my estate in lands, goods, chattels or effects of what nature or kind soever, of which I may die possessed or in any way interested to have and to hold the same with the rents, issues and profits thereof to her during her life with full power and authority to sell or otherwise dispose of the whole or any part of my personal estate, debts or money as and when and to whom she may think proper and if need be for the support of herself and such children number of the family as she may be pleased to have remain with her, to sell and convey the whole or any part of the real estate of which I may die possessed to any person or persons and for such consideration as she may think proper, and after her death I will-
2nd. to my son John his heirs and assignes forever lot 10 Con 3 Pittsburg containing by admeasurement 200 acres be the same more or less except so much as may be contained within a line commencing at the point of said lot 10 feet to the west and running parallel with the west end of the horse stable and shed now erected in front of the aforesaid lot to the rear of the barn and including the land on which stands the said barnand it's present appurtenances supposed to be erected partly upon lot 10 and lot 11 and except also so much of said lot 10 as may be necessary for a right of way with horses and carts or carriages, cattle or other things to and from said barn as now enjoyed and used. Subject nevertheless and it is my express will and intention that so much of the said lot 10 as is above intended to be devised to my said son John shall stand charged and be subject to the payments of the sum of 100 of lawful money of the said province to my daughter Elizabeth, wife of Patrick Driscoll to be paid within the term of years by annual payments of 25 each after the death of my wife - and in the case of the death of my said daughter prior to such oayments being made it is my will and desire that the said be paid to the legal guardian of her children to be placed at interest in landed securities under mortgage to be distributed among the children of my said daughter in such equal proportion as the amount shall from time to time bear to the number of children as they shall respectively, if males, attend the age of 21 years, and if females 18 years, at which period such payments are to be made unless required sooner for the necessary support or education of said children in which case their guardian shall be at liberty to apply the sum as and where he or she may deem advisable. And I do further will and direct that the said part of lot 10 above devised be not sold or otherwise disposed of by my said son John his heirs or assigns until satisfaction be made to my said daughter Elizabeth - or the guardian of her children in the evnt of her death, of the legacy hereby devised.

3. I will and devise that in case my daughter Julia shall survive her mother and the previous be indisposed of by the latter as herein before mentioned - that the lot 11 of said township of Pittsburg and so much of the lot 10 above decribed in Con 3 with the ? dilaments

privileges and apportenances thereofin and upon which I now live shall stand charged with the necessary support and maintainance of my said daughter Julia during her life and that my Executor herein after named and whom it is my wish should act as guardians of my said daughter Julia - have full power and authority (after the death of my said wife should she be the survivor of my said daughter Julia) to take possession of said lot 11 with all appurtenances and to have and let the sum of any part thereof for such rent or rents or on such terns as they may deem advisable and out of the rents, issues and profits thereof or of any other property or effect of mine that may come into their hands or control after the death of my wife - to pay, satisfy and discharge in the first place all proper claims or charges for the comfortable and necessary support and maintainaance of my daughter Julia during her life - and the surpluss to be paid in equal proportion to my daughters Jane and Mary and in the case of the death of either of them the said Jane or Mary - the surplus, to be paid to the survivor.

4. If Jane and Mary survive their mother and sister Julia they can sell lot 11 - 2/5 to each of them abd 1/5 to my son Henry.

5 If my son John or daughters Jane and Mary die without issue everything is to be divided between Henry and Elizabeth.

6 My wife Margaret is appointed Executrix with John Strange and Elijah Beach.

witness
Mary Eliza Cassady
Robert Martin
Henry Cassady, Jr

Will made 10 Mar 1830
Registered 25 Feb 1831

Executors

last will and testament, on two sheets of paper
written. Hereby revoking all former wills
by me made. In Witness whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and seal this 7th
day of March in the Year of our Lord
one thousand eight hundred and thirty.

Signed Sealed published
and declared by the above
named Joseph Franklin
to be his last Will & testa-
ment in the presence of
us who have hereunto
subscribed our names
as Witnesses, in the presence
of the testator

Joel H. Hamilton

In for insertained within a line at the end of 14th line second page "and two sheets" at the beginning of the 16th line of the sixth page - and "two sheets" near the end of the seventh line of eight page - "shall" at the end of the tenth line seventh page - also written "Part" at the end of the twenty fourth line third page -

Also - two interlines written between the original 14th & 15th lines second page - & nearly one line between the original 6th & 7 lines fourth page - & one line between the original 14th & 15th lines sixth page - and one line between the 10th & 11th lines & nearly five lines between the original 24 & 25th lines third page - and the word "above demised" interlined in the 25th line third page - & "sheets" at the beginning of same line - before inserting

Received at Probate Office

Register of Probate Court

Joel H. Hamilton

(From the Kingston Gazette, November 13, 1810)

Most of the first settlers in this province were poor. They had to struggle not only with the hardships common to all new settlements, but also with some other peculiar to their situation. The revolutionary war, in which many of them had been engaged, had deprived them of their land, their houses and furniture, and driven them from the places of their nativity or former residence. They left behind them many family connections and friends, who had taken the opposite side in the revolution. They were accordingly impressed with a degree of anxiety and gloom. This province was then a howling wilderness little known and less cultivated. They came into it, as a kind of exile; and after obtaining locations of land, had habitations to provide, the forests to fell, the ground to clear, provisions to raise, and their utensils of labor and furniture of their houses principally to make for themselves. It is true wild land was given them for settlement by the King, and they were supplied, the first year, with rations of provision from the same royal bounty. Thus they planted themselves in the wilderness, which was laid out into townships. For years their labor was hard, and their accommodations poor. Their minds were inevitable occupied with the necessities of their situation. They had not the means of giving much education to their children, or obtaining much information themselves from reading. Books were necessarily scarce. Hence arose a habit of inattention to literature, and in this habit the rising generation were unavoidably formed. In a course of more than twenty years, however, these difficulties are chiefly surmounted. The first settlers, as well as many others, now posses well cultivated plantations. Their children are supplied with valuable farms, which are very considerably improved, and in a good progress towards still further improvement. The conveniences and comforts of life are obtained without much difficulty. Townships and neighborhoods, in various parts of the province, are becoming so populous as to be well adapted to social intercourse and useful and agreeable institutions. Means of information, education and improvement in science, ought now to receive that attention, which the state of the country heretofore rendered impracticable. Common schools ought to be put upon a more liberal establishment. Social libraries may be introduced with advantage, into many townships, where the inhabitants cannot yet afford to lay out much money in the purchase of books, for each family. A subscription, to the amount of a few shillings for each subscriber, will furnish a well settled neighborhood with a tolerable library, which may be increased by a small yearly tax upon each share. Such a library, well purchased and placed under proper regulations, may supply many successive readers with instructive and entertaining books, and at the same time promote friendly intercourse and sociability. The writer of this paragraph is happy to learn that institutions of this nature are becoming an object of attention in various places, and most cordially wishes them success. Such indications are animating; but it is worthy of consideration whether the general habits of neglect necessarily introduced by the early state of this country, may not operate to retard the progress of improvement. Habits are second nature. Habitual negligence of any kind is difficult to be corrected. On this point the exertions of the patriot and philanthropist will be peculiarly necessary.

Among other means of information, the circulation of newspapers ought not to be omitted. As our population increases, and roads and other facilities for communication are advancing, it would be criminal if a taste for reading and becoming acquainted with the events and transactions of the world should not increase in proportion.

Franklin.

548-3250

*H. C. Burleigh, M.D., C.M.*
APT. 507, 33 ONTARIO STREET
KINGSTON, ONTARIO K7L 5E3

FRANKLIN

Certificates of Location in the District of Mecklenburgh

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Joseph Franklin, Sr | 29 June 1789 | Lot 9, | Conc. 3 | 200 | acres | Meck-burgh |
| Joseph Franklin Jr | do | do | Lot 11 | " 3 | 200 | " |
| John Franklin | do | do | " 1/2 of 9 | " 4 | 100 | " " |

Caraquet Sept: 27th 1774

Memorial of Joseph Franklin formerly Serg.t belonging to His Majestys 27th Reg.t of foot, Discharg'd in the year 1763 and Humble Recommended to His Majestys Royal bounty of Chealsey Hospital, Having serv'd twenty one years, of which the four last years, Acted in the Capacety as Master Mason, By an Order from Gen.l Amherst, The year 1759 at Fort William Henry under the Direction of Col.e Montresere, The three last years at Crown point, Under Col. Garth & Lt. Adolphus Benzel, at which last place I was Discharg'd, Rec.d my two Hundred Acers of Land, and Settled with a Wife and four small Children, till the year 1776 When I left my place and Joyned His Majestys Troops of which time sence I have been Employ'd under the Direction of Col. Twiss Commanding Engineer for the Province of Canada. The following is a Small Estimate of my Loss by the Unnatural Rebellion —

| | £ | s | d |
|---|---|---|---|
| Two Hundred Acers of Land at 6 p Acer | 60 | - | - |
| Two Houses, with Out houses | 20 | - | - |
| One Hors & One Mare | 10 | - | - |
| One Bullock & Heifer | 6 | - | - |
| Total £ | 96 | Sterling | |

Household furnitures & other Utensils Excepted.

Replied
9 Sept/76
B.

Wilmington,Delaware
Sept. 5,1976.

Dear Doctor Burliegh;

You will no doubt remember Bob Martin and Russell Franklin who visited you at your apartment Aug.31,.I promised to send you a copy of an article written by a Franklin girl,born in 1825 and a grandaughter of my great,great grandfather,Joseph Franklin,UEL and ex-sgt.of his Majesty's 27th Regt. of Foot.

I am also enclosing a picture of Joseph Franklin's house located on the "Middle Road".It is now occupied by Mr./Mrs. William Gerdis.This I beleive is the home Mrs. McNiece tells about in her article.There are several other Franklin houses in the area,one refinished and in use on the prison property at Joyceville.

I have to question the origin of the stone fences.About 1910 my grandad took me out in the area and made a point of explaining how they came there.He was Charles D. Franklin,born on William Franklin's farm in 1836.He said his father was on the underground that helped escaped slaves. At times they had a number around the place and to keep them busy they had them clear the land of rocks and make these fences. As he was there I kind of beleive his story.

Your article on professor Dupuis was of interest.During 1940 I was in Kingston and went to have tea with Mrs.Dupuis.Years ago she lived with my grandmother on Alfred St..As a young lad I was around the house a lot and she used to take care of me. While I was there I had a tour of the house and saw the wonderful "flying staircase" the professor built,also a great grandfathers clock and many pieces of art, He must have been a wonderful man. As I remember,Mrs.Dupuis name was May but have long ago forgotten her maiden name.

It was indeed a pleasure talking with you doctor,wish I could have extended my stay. I am in the midst of enjoying your books,brings back much of the history I was taught in Canada.

Sincerely
Russell Franklin

402 FOULK ROAD
WILMINGTON-DEL.
19803

Replied
March 11/77

Wilmington, Delaware
Feb. 24,1977.

Dear Dr. Burleigh;

In case my name escapes you, I visited you at your apartment about October 1st last year. I was with my cousin's son, Bob Martin who is doing considerable building at Bath. I think I later sent you a copy of an article ," Old Times in Pittsburgh".

Now I have a question to ask.....where was the fort called William Henry where my forefather Joseph Franklin says he was a Master Mason in the year 1759 ???? From the site of this fort he apparently served out the rest of his time at Crown Point. I would sure appreciate any information you could give me. To help I am enclosing copies of some material that might be of assistance.

In one of your letters you suggested I become a member of the U.E.L., as of Sept.1976 I am an Affiliate Member of the Bay of Quinte branch. If and when the Spirit moves you and you have the time I wish you would drop me a line. Best regards to yourself and Mrs.Burleigh.

Sincerely
Russell Franklin

Russell Franklin
Apt. 5 A 7,
402 Foulk Road
Wilmington, Del.
19803

# OLD TIMES IN PITTSBURG

## ONTARIO.

The following article was written by Mrs. John McNeice, [illegible] Ont., whose father was Henry Franklin, who lived for year[illegible] burg township. The uncle she speaks of was William Franklin [illegible] of Mrs. John Sherman and Charles Franklin of this city:

My grandfather, Joseph Franklin, came from England an[illegible] New York State about one hundred and fifty years ago. A[illegible] war of independence, he, with many of his neighbors, dec[illegible] fiance to the newly constituted authorities and migrated [illegible]

The United Empire Loyalists abandoned the property th[illegible] accumulated by patient industry and settled in a new lan[illegible] to feel themselves still under the sway of the Union Ja[illegible] grandfather, with his young wife, settled anew in the tow[illegible] Pittsburg, eight miles east of Kingston. The government [illegible] family four hundred acres of land, a year's provisions, a[illegible] and a supply of implements. With the same zeal with whic[illegible] worked to establish themselves in New York they set themselve[illegible] make a new home in Ontario.

The township of Pittsburg is one of the most beautiful and [illegible] tic spots in Canada, its situation, on the shore of the mighty [illegible] Lawrence just at its intersection with Lake Ontario, giving it [illegible] charm. The waters of the lake pour into the river throug[illegible] ous rapids made by the world-renowned Thousand Islands. [illegible] ancestors built their first log cabin and commenced to clea[illegible] land.

By the year 1800 they were raising enough for their own [illegible] and a surplus which enabled them to aid new arrivals. In [illegible] days people assisted each other generously in all their [illegible] while good cheer and contentment were the characteristic o[illegible] pioneer homes.

In early times there was a grist mill at Gananoque and o[illegible] my grandfather made the ten mile journey through the wood[illegible] mill. There was a blazed trail but the journey was a sh[illegible] one and necessitated being away from home one night. My [illegible] with her young children, was left alone and felt natural[illegible] timid over possible visits of wild animals. What she e[illegible] ened. There was a rain trough outside and about ten o'cl[illegible] night Grandmother glanced up and saw a bear on this trough lo[illegible] through the window. Although much frightened, those inside did not lose their heads. The fire was replenished, the gun taken from the wooden hooks on the door (Grandfather having taken the rifle with him) and the axe, the most dependable weapon of pioneer times, placed in a handy position in case of necessity. After a time the bear took his departure having apparently satisfied himself that the preparations he saw in progress betokened a warmer reception than he thought desirable. Probably he went off to plunder some settler's pig pen, for all bears dearly love pork and proved themselves regular nuisances to the early settlers by the con[illegible] raids they made upon the pig pens. Notwithstanding the departure of the bear the vigil was continued all night and it was only when morning dawned that Grandmother permitted her vigilance [illegible].

Some years later their eldest son, my uncle, started [illegible] down to fetch the cattle home. This was often a long and tiresome journey as the cattle wandered far in search of feed and were frequently hidden from observation by the thick undergrowth. On these journeys a rifle was always taken, the dangers being too manifold for anyone to go without arms. In the growing darkness he suddenly came upon a bear and fired upon it without being able to note the effect of his shot. For fear he had only wounded the animal, and knowing well the consequences of such an occurrence, he deemed it prudent to climb to the top of a small maple tree. In those days every one knew the prudence of such a course and children were taught to seek safety from bears and wolves in the tree-tops.

Although no bear appeared my uncle was unable to muster up courage to descend and consequently retained his position in the treetop the whole night.

When daylight at last broke over the scene my uncle located the bear and found that his shot had been a fatal one. Years after that at all family gatherings my uncle used to delight the youngsters with recounting his adventure, dwelling upon the long night, his cramped limbs, the hooting of the owls when they found a wingless creature usurping their quarters, the baying of the wolves in the distance, and, worst of all, the spitting of the fiery-eyed wild cats as they jumped from branch to branch in the big trees that towered far above the little maple.

The bear was taken home in triumph and proved to be a good fat one. Great pieces were distributed around to neighbors and the skin tanned and made into a fine rug. It often happened in those days that a bear, having captured a pig, was in turn captured by the settler and instead of the bear feasting on pork the settler's family feasted on bear meat.

When the Rideau canal was made many of the farms in Pittsburg township were flooded and the owners were recompensed by the government for the damages. In the severe winter frosts the canal, with all this overflowed land was solidly frozen over, making a fine winter highway for the wolves, extending from Kingston to Ottawa. The wolves were a great pest and they grew bolder in numbers when such a good gathering ground was made for them. I remember one October afternoon when three animals killed three of my grandfather's sheep in a field not far from the house. My grandmother cried badly over this loss and I joined her in her lamentations.

Deer were very plentiful in those days and my people would secure hundreds of them in a season. Venison was salted and cured in the same way as pork is done at the present time. It was then packed in barrels and shipped to Montreal, by sleighs in winter time and by boats through the Rideau canal when navigation was open. This work paid the settlers good money at a time when money was far less plentiful in Canada than at present. I well remember seeing a large log building full of deer from the floor to the rafters, all ready to be dressed and cured for shipment to the eastern market. Home tanneries were the rule in those days, though only a few were expert at the work and could make such buckskin as to be good enough for really fine articles of wearing apparel.

Tame deer were quite common. Settlers would catch the little spotted fawns and raise them on milk. They were easy to tame, very docile and affectionate though they would occasionally wander far from home and run the risk of being shot unless very well marked. The method invariably followed was having a red strap with a little bell attached to it placed around the active skipper's neck.

No one need go hungry in those days when wild geese and ducks were found in great flocks along the St. Lawrence and on the inland lakes and streams. It was quite an ordinary occurrence for a wild gander to leave his mates and make himself at home amongst a settler's tame flocks. As a result, wild and tame flocks frequently had a strain of mixed blood in each. Wild ducks and wild geese when nicely prepared made tempting meats and formed a staple article of food at certain seasons in pioneer homes.

At one time big black snakes came out of the canal and though not venomous or active on land proved nuisances, the spotted milk snake particularly so. The latter would wind around the cow's legs and suck the milk until completely filled up when it would lie dormant for several days. We always knew when a cow had been tampered with in this way as the teat used would be badly inflamed. A search for the robber was at once instituted and its death followed immediately upon discovery. By waging a deadly warfare upon these snakes whenever they were met, the settlers at last overcame them.

My first recollection of the road from Kingston to Montreal was over eighty years ago when many portions of it lay through dense wood

The bridges were mostly wooden ones and had to be frequently repaired to prevent them becoming dangerous. In the neighborhood of Kingston the limestone formation prevented the road from becoming muddy in bad weather although it was not gravelled. Regular stage lines were in operation in my young days, a daily mail coach running each way. They were always well laden with passengers and parcels and were drawn by four horses except when the roads were bad when a couple of leaders were put on. Horses were always changed at Kingston and the daily arrivals and departures formed scenes of great excitement.

During the trying times of '37 and '38 I was a girl of thirteen and lived with my grandmother on her farm east of Kingston, my grandfather having died some years before. The house was an extra good one for those days, being a large frame structure with a good hall running through the centre. Four big square rooms opened from the hall and at the back was an immense farm kitchen where the housework of the four hundred acre farm was carried on. In winter the house was kept warm and comfortable by four large fireplaces and two cast iron double heaters, all burning four foot wood, the chunks often being as large as three or four men could handle. The military authorities finding such large and convenient quarters took possession of the house and used it as a base of supplies and a military post. Similar posts extended from Montreal to Toronto and no doubt in many other directions. They were about ten miles apart and each under the command of an officer and company of soldiers. Despatches and other communications were passed from post to post and there was plenty of life at each post which rose to fever heat when a despatch bearer was robbed and sometimes killed.

My grandmother was threatened in various ways, these threats generally taking the form of promises to burn her buildings. As a result an extra company was stationed at the house and a sentry constantly on the watch to prevent molestation.

The first winter of the rebellion the St. Lawrence never froze over. During a residence near its banks extending over half a century my people could not remember such an unusual occurrence. Generally we had six weeks of sleighing before New Years, then a January thaw and six further weeks of a freeze up. The open winter gave a number of advantages to those in opposition. Naturally all this excitement was not unpleasant to a young girl and I assisted my grandmother in many little attentions to the soldiers. These duties consisted in using the needle frequently, writing letters for them and administering simple remedies for minor injuries and colds. There was much coming and going and the men appeared to deeply enjoy the rest when they were allowed to remain at our house over night. Once we had a cavalry company stopping with us and to my youthful eyes they looked fine with their gleaming sabres flashing in the sunshine, neatly fitting clothes and mounted as they were on prancing horses. About one hundred pounds of meat--beef, pork, mutton or venison--would be needed daily when all these extra men were with us.

I can well remember the time when VonSchultz leading a band of Yankees crossed the river and took possession of a mill near Prescott The skirmish was a stubborn one and some of the men who lost their lives on our side were amongst those who had made our house their headquarters, for a time. Great excitement prevailed at our house during the encounter, the despatch bearers coming and going with foaming horses. Prescott was only forty miles from our place and the orders were to rush forward every available man. That engagement ook place on November 16th, 1838. Soon after that date peace was estored and calmness succeeded the blustering scenes.

Everyone admired the loyalty of the Indians during those trying imes. They made splendid soldiers and proved thoroughly trustrthy, being often entrusted with important orders and finding iemselves in dangerous situations. A company of Indians protected ir property and proved themselves most efficient guardians.

Ten years afterwards what was known as the "emigrant fever" broke out. The disease was brought to Canada by those who had undergone severe hardships while crossing the Atlantic. It proved difficult to fight as the continual army of newcomers added fresh fuel to the flames.

Later on the cholera broke out and many sad scenes resulted. Families were decimated and mine suffered with the rest.

Eighty years ago many young people learned to read and all learned to spell in the Sunday School. The scholars used to commit to memory a whole chapter of the Bible and be prepared to repeat a verse whenever their turn came. This was by no means an easy task.

The early ministers travelled through the country and held services in private houses. They always carried a good supply of Bibles, hymn-books and tracts in their saddle bags, selling and distributing them as they went. The singing at these early gatherings was hearty if not always in accord with modern and artistic ideas of singing.

In the old days everyone rode on horseback, an exhilarating exercise that gave great enjoyment to its participants. I owned a fine English hunting saddle of which I was very proud. I attended many funerals on horseback and often thirty or forty people would attend similarly mounted.

I well remember when my mother used to set her milk in home-made wooden trays. To keep them sweet was a difficult undertaking and no one was sorry when able to abandon them for modern trays.

The hum of the spinning wheel was heard all over the country in those old days and in every home flax and wool were in constant preparation for future use as wearing apparel. Our pleasures were simple but we had some real good times and social duties were not as exacting as they are to-day.

Franklin – Pittsburgh

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WILMINGTON, DE 198
PM
10 AUG
1977


(52)

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Replied 15.8.77

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7.13.137

2 KRRNY c 1783

John Franklin ae 21 5'5" w Indian 1 yr service

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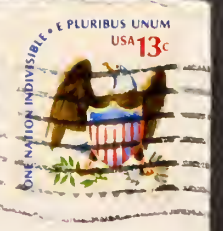


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